

(b) The disposal is being monitored on monthly basis.

Identification of New Coal Mines

6. SHRI N.J. RATHWA : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether East Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation an agency of the power generating units in private sector has identified coal mines for domestic purpose;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the places where these have been located;

(c) whether the Corporation has formulated a scheme to develop these mines to meet the requirements of coal for its power plants;

(d) if so, the amount likely to be spent thereon;

(e) whether the Union Government have accorded approval to this scheme; and

(f) if not, the time by which the approval is likely to be accorded?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) and (b). A coal mine block namely, Sarshatali in the State of West Bengal, has been identified for captive mining by the Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation for their power plants.

(c) to (f). The Integrated Coal Mining Pvt. Ltd. , an associate coal company of the Calcutta Electricity Supply Corporation had submitted a mining plan in respect of 'Sarshatali Block' as per the Statutory requirement for obtaining the approval of the Central Government.

The mining plan does not contain any details of the likely amount to be spent by the company on the development of mines. However, the company has paid an exploration cost of Rs.1.65 crores to Coal India Ltd. for obtaining the geological report on the Sarshatali block. The Central Government has since considered the mining plan and has communicated its approval of the same to the Integrated Coal Mining Pvt. Ltd.

Pollution by Flyash

7. SHRI NARAYAN ATHAWALAY : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) the estimated flyash thrown up yearly by coal based thermal plant and its projection by 2000 AD and its effect on pollution of ground water;

(b) the details of observations/recommendations made and action taken by the union authorities and State Electricity Boards thereon; and

(c) whether technological options are available to convert the waste into useful products and working group

constituted in 1990 made a number of recommendations on disposal of Flyash in the national interest?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (DR. S. VENUGOPALACHARI) : (a) The estimated fly ash thrown up annually by coal based thermal power stations in the country is 50 Million tonnes and its projection by 2000 AD is 100 million tonnes.

Inorganic substances contained in fly ash can pollute ground water due to seepage and overflow of ash water into ground water/rivers/sea and agricultural fields etc., if it is not disposed of at sites considered safe for the purpose.

(b) It has been observed that fly ash can cause environmental pollution both at plant site and enroute to dumps and through seepage and overflow of ash water. To minimise such adverse effect, guidelines have been issued which inter-alia provide for dry ash collection, fuller utilisation of ash including in the brick and cement manufacture and covering blocks of ash deposited with vegetation.

(c) Yes, Sir. A Working Group on utilisation of fly ash set up by the Ministry of Power has made a number of recommendations on disposal/utilisation of fly ash. Various technological options are now available to convert fly ash into useful products. These include use of flyash in bricks and cement making, and land fills and in the preparation of base and sub-base courses in road laying, besides for soil improvement.

[Translation]

LPG Agencies

8. SHRI O.P. JINDAL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the IBP company proposes to start the sale of LPG in the country during the current financial year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the extent to which it is likely to meet the increasing demand of LPG; and

(d) the details of further steps proposed to be taken by the Government to deal with the LPG problem expeditiously?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU) : (a) to (c). Yes, Sir. The Government has recently authorised IBP for marketing of LPG from the current year i.e. 1996-97. IBP is exploring the possibility of commencing marketing of LPG during the current year and accordingly formulating required plans.

(d) Plans have been drawn to undertake accelerated new LPG enrolments in the future years in

the country by augmenting LPG availability which is expected to accrue by commissioning of new sources and augmenting LPG production at some of the existing sources. Plans have also been drawn to augment LPG import capacity by commissioning new LPG import facilities at Kandla and Mangalore.

[English]

Coal Based Methane Blocks

9. SHRI NAMDEO DIWATHE : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether management of coal based methane blocks has now come under Petroleum Ministry and reasons therefor;

(b) if so, the details of coal based methane blocks handed over for management to petroleum Ministry;

(c) the details of project awarded to private sector by coal India and investment made thereunder;

(d) the number of coal based methane blocks available for exploitation and details of foreign direct investment proposals cleared/under consideration; and

(e) the details of action taken/proposed on recommendations of the Strategic Planning Group on Exploration of Coal Based Methane?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI T.R. BAALU):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) to (e). The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Capital Expenditure

10. SHRI SURESH PRABHU : Will the Minister of PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Capital expenditure of the Government has registered an increase from 3.6% of the GDP in 1991 to 5.9 per cent of GDP in 1996;

(b) if so, the reasons thereof; and

(c) the steps taken to bring down this expenditure?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION AND MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (SHRI YOGINDER K. ALAGH) : (a) The capital expenditure of the Government was 5.9 per cent of GDP in 1990-91 and as per the revised estimates it was 3.7 per cent of GDP in 1995-96.

(b) and (c). Does not arise. In fact capital expenditure of Government must rise in infrastructure sector.

Asian Development Bank Assistance

11. SHRI VIJAY GOEL : Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government has request the Asian Development Bank to provide financial assistance for housing projects specially for the persons belonging to the economically weaker sections; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF URBAN AFFAIRS AND EMPLOYMENT AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (DR. U. VENKATESWARLU) : (a) and (b). The Asian Development Bank has been requested to provide loan assistance of the undermentioned projects in the housing and urban development sectors :-

I. Line of credit for executing housing schemes in Tamil Nadu.

A project proposal to secure line of credit from ADB for executing housing projects in the State of Tamil Nadu by Tamil Nadu Housing Board has been posed to ADB. The project with a total project cost of Rs.381.11 cróres, envisages to implement shelter and infrastructure schemes in 36 small and medium towns in Tamil Nadu. A total area of 1554.93 Hectares is proposed to be developed for carving out 62,339 residential plots, out of which 34,286 dots will be meant for EWS and LIG categories. The response of ADB is still awaited.

II. Financial Support to HUDCO for Urban Development.

A proposal seeking ADB loan of Rs.5150 millions (around US \$ 170 millions) to HUDCO for augmentation of infrastructure in existing towns/development of new towns, building material industry building centres, and integrated project for shelter basic services and environmental improvement of slums has been posed to the ADB. Out of the total component, Rs.1650 million are meant for the integrated project for shelter basic services and slum improvement programmes.

III. Assistance to National Housing Bank.

The National Housing Bank has sought assistance of US \$260 million from Asian Development Bank for providing refinance assistance to eligible institutions towards housing loans, development of Secondary Mortgage Market and refinance to Regional Rural Banks for rural housing loans.

IV. Assistance to Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. (HDFC)

ADB has approved a loan of US \$ 20 million to Housing Development Finance Corporation Ltd. for various housing projects in the State of Karnataka, of which at least 50% shall be used for providing financial assistance to households from valuable income groups.